

Minneapolis Labor Review

117th Year

No. 7

December 14, 2024

www.minneapolisunions.org

Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation, AFL-CIO

Trump pick for Labor Secretary is Oregon US House member

By Don McIntosh, editor, Northwest Labor Press

PORTLAND, OR — One week after Oregon Republican Lori Chavez-DeRemer conceded the loss of her seat in Congress, president-elect Donald Trump asked her to take an even bigger job: cabinet member in his second presidential administration. Trump announced he's nominating her for Secretary of Labor in a November 22 post on his social media platform Truth Social.

The nomination came after Chavez-DeRemer impressed Trump at a meeting in his residence in Palm Beach, Florida. And her invitation to Mar-a-Lago came after days of advocacy by Teamsters general president Sean O'Brien. O'Brien broke the mold in July by accepting Trump's invitation to speak at

the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The 1.3-million-member International Brotherhood of Teamsters then opted to stay out of the presidential race, endorsing neither Trump nor Kamala Harris. (Although local Teamsters unions across the country and Teamsters district councils quickly endorsed the Harris-Walz ticket, including Minnesota-based Teamsters Joint Council 32).

After it became clear Chavez-DeRemer had lost her campaign for re-election, the Teamsters and the Fire Fighters unions — which also stayed out of the presidential race — encouraged the Trump team to nominate her, according to a person familiar with some of the behind-the-

LABOR SECRETARY page 9

Minneapolis City Council fails to override Frey veto of Labor Board

By Steve Share, Labor Review editor

MINNEAPOLIS — The Minneapolis City Council took a vote December 5 to attempt to override Mayor Jacob Frey's veto of the proposed Labor Standards Board.

The vote was 8-5 to override, failing to reach the 9 required votes.

The proposed Labor Standards Board was supported by the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation, AFL-CIO and affiliated unions working in a coalition with community groups like worker center CTUL.

Voting yes to override: Elliott Payne, Ward 1; Robin Wonsley, Ward 2; Jeremiah Ellison, Ward 5; Katie Cashman, Ward 7; Jason Chavez, Ward 9; Aisha Chughtai, Ward 10; Emily Koski, Ward 11; Aurin Chowdhury, Ward 12.

Voting no to override: Mi-



Labor Review photo

Pipefitters celebrate the season with a new Santa and Mrs. Claus

BLOOMINGTON — Pipefitters Local 539 members and their families gathered at the DoubleTree hotel December 7 for the union's annual Christmas Party. This year, for the first time in many years, the festivities included a new Santa and Mrs. Claus. Three months ahead, the union learned that their Santa of 30 years was in ill health and couldn't make a repeat visit. The new Santa: retired Roofers Local 96 business agent Harry Johnson, joined by friend Bobbie Morris as Mrs. Claus. "We do it from our heart. It's part of giving back," Johnson said. He said the kids' Christmas requests range from 'I don't know' to 'I've got everything,' although, he added, "kids have good imaginations." Photo above: Santa and 1-year-old Elliot Scherber shared a special moment. Elliot is in the arms of his grandfather, Local 539 business manager Russ Scherber, and is the son of Local 539 member Mike Scherber. More photos: page 19.

US Senate vote gives Trump chance to control NLRB sooner

WASHINGTON — By a vote of 50-49, the U.S. Senate December 11 blocked the renomination of Lauren McFerran as chair of the National Labor Relations Board. The move in effect speeds-up incoming President Donald Trump's power to appoint a seat on the NLRB — from 2026 to January 20, 2025 — and will give Republican appointees a board majority.

Independent Senators Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona and Joe Manchin of West Virginia joined the Republican majority to hand-over the NLRB to Trump.

With McFerran as chair, the NLRB increasingly ruled in favor workers and labor unions. Just recently, the NLRB issued a decision November 11 banning employers from holding "captive audience meetings" to subject their employees to anti-union propaganda.

"50 senators didn't just vote against Lauren McFerran's reconfirmation—they voted against the working people of this country," AFL-CIO president Liz Shuler said in a statement. "Make no mistake: This vote had nothing to do with stopping Chair McFerran's renomination and everything to do with reversing generations of progress workers have made toward building a fairer and more just economy."

"The NLRB is the only government agency that protects workers' fundamental freedom to stand up to powerful companies by organizing a union and bargaining collectively on the job," Shuler said. Corporate lobbyists and anti-union politicians won this vote, she said, "but they won't stop workers from organizing."

chael Rainville, Ward 3; LaTrisha Vetaw, Ward 4. Jamal Osman, Ward 6, Andrea Jenkins, Ward 8; Linea Palmisano, Ward 13.

Notably, Osman and Jenkins had voted to support the proposed Labor Standard Board when it first passed the City Council November 14 but failed to vote to override Frey's veto.

After the override vote, Palmisano read a statement from Mayor Frey, who was not present. The statement read, in part, "the conversation does not stop here... I see an opportunity to get back to the table... I believe we can find a way forward... in January."

Council supporters of the proposed Labor Standards Board, however, blasted the alternative proposed by Frey.

"At the end of the day, this was an advisory board where
MINNEAPOLIS page 10

Putting thanks front-and-center to all who labor behind the scenes

By Chelsie Glaubitz Gabiou, President, Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation

As many families pause for a moment to celebrate good cheer this holiday season, there is an army of workers — and they are not elves — working to put in the extra hours to make those magical moments happen.

We are seeing workers in the retail, delivery and hospitality industries doing what they do best.

And, as we now know well, essential workers will continue their round-the-clock services to provide food, keep the lights on and keep us healthy and safe.

To all these workers, we wish you a

Happy New Year — and employers who recognize the value of your work. We hope you and your loved ones will find your own moments to celebrate together.

Here at the MRLF though, we do have a little team of elves that make big magical things happen for workers throughout our region year-round. The pages of the *Labor Review* are filled with projects and campaigns where our staff is behind the scenes helping to make sure it all comes to life.

And oh, what a team we have this year! We are fortunate to have a team including members with more than 20 years of experience in labor to brand new staff who've come from their own unions to make their mark in our work with all unions.

Like all our union members, the staff at the MRLF come from all walks of life and provide a rich background of experiences. We have educators, office managers, advocates, writers and project managers. But of course, everyone here at the MRLF, regardless of their job title, are organizers at heart.

I want to recognize the ongoing achievements of our staff and their dedication. Without our team, our campaigns would never come to life.

The end of the year is a busy time for our staff, wrapping up year-end projects, filing reports and planning for 2025; if you see any of them, please thank them for the work they do.

Thanks go to MRLF staff: Barb Boettcher, office manager; Alfreda D. Juasemai, executive campaigns manager; Uriah Ward, strategic campaigns manager; Graeme Allen, community and political organizer; Mary Hampton, community organizer; and, at Working Partnerships, executive director Doug Plateau.

Early in 2025, we will be celebrating the retirement of *Labor Review* editor Steve Share from the organization. Watch for an invitation in the coming weeks. We particularly want to recognize his achievements and dedication as he reaches this milestone in his career. Steve's legacy of telling workers' stories in these pages will be a foundation for the local labor movement for generations to come.



To all workers, we at the MRLF wish you a Happy New Year — and we also wish you employers who recognize the value of your work



Labor Review sets 2025 publication schedule

MINNEAPOLIS — The *Minneapolis Labor Review* will publish a total of nine issues in 2024 — publishing monthly except for January, March and June.

The publication date normally will be the second to last Saturday of the month or the last Saturday of the month.

The 2025 publication dates will be: February 28 (February 12 deadline); April 19 (April 2 deadline); May 31 (May 14 deadline); July 26 (July 9 deadline); August 23 (August 6 deadline); September 20 (September 3 deadline);

October 18 (October 1 deadline); November 15 (October 29 deadline); December 20 (December 3 deadline). See also page 23 for the 2025 schedule.

Discounted ad rates will be available for the May issue (*Labor Review* 118th anniversary issue), August issue (Labor Day issue) and December issue (holiday issue).

For more information, to suggest a story idea, or to advertise, contact the editor at 612-379-4725 or send an e-mail to laborreview@minneapolisunions.org.

From the editor: Retirement is ahead in 2025

Dear Readers:

If you've been paying attention, you may know that almost six months ago I announced my intention to retire as your *Labor Review* editor "after the first of the year." I produced my first issue of the *Labor Review* in October 2003. This issue marks my 249th issue!

As we go to press, the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation has received numerous applications for the *Labor Review* editor's position and has conducted several interviews. We hope to introduce a new editor in the coming weeks and transition to a new era for this publication, which was founded in 1907 as a weekly newspaper.

In 2007 — the 100th anniversary year for the *Labor Review* — I produced a 10-

part series examining each 10-year stretch of the publication's history. The series included a narrative history, a timeline of brief news items, as well as reprints of selected stories, photos and cartoons. If you're curious to learn more about the history of the *Labor Review* — and the history of the local and national labor movement — you can find the 100th anniversary series by going to the issue list of our online archive and looking for the March 2007 through December 2007 issues.

I'll have more to share about my time here later. For now, I'll simply say that serving as *Labor Review* editor these past 21 years has been the honor of a lifetime.

In Solidarity,
Steve Share, *Labor Review* editor

'Welcome' to new Minneapolis Labor Review readers

As a member of a union affiliated with the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, you now are receiving a subscription to the monthly Minneapolis Labor Review. Several affiliates recently have updated their Labor Review mailing lists. For subscriber service, see page 23.

Minneapolis Labor Review

Since 1907

Steve Share, Editor

Next issue:
February 28, 2025

Deadline:
February 12, 2025

AFL-CIO

"The rights labor has won, labor must fight to protect."
— Floyd B. Olson, Minnesota Governor, 1930-1936

Minneapolis Labor Review (USPS 351120) (ISSN 02749017) is published monthly, except January, March and June, 9 times per year for \$10.00 per year in the United States by the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, 312 Central Avenue SE, Suite 542, Minneapolis, MN 55414-1097. All other countries \$5.00 additional per year. Periodicals postage paid at St. Paul, Minnesota.

POSTMASTER send address changes to:
Minneapolis Labor Review / Minneapolis Labor Review Newspaper,
312 Central Avenue SE, Suite 542, Minneapolis, MN 55414-1097.

Office (612) 379-4725 Fax (612) 379-1307
laborreview@minneapolisunions.org
www.minneapolisunions.org

Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation, AFL-CIO Executive Board

Chelsie Glaubitz Gabiou, President; Marcia Howard, Executive Vice President; Jeff Heimerl, First Vice President; Scott Bultena, Second Vice President; Dan McConnell, Financial Secretary-Treasurer; Ternesha Burroughs, Register Clerk; Annette Davis, Deputy Register Clerk; Grace Baltich, Reading Clerk; Cabbas Abdi, Recording Secretary; Tommy Bellfield, Sgt.-At-Arms; Uriel Perez Espinoza, Aaron Hill, Russ Scherber, Mary Turner and Jigme Ugen — Trustees; Judy Russell Martin, Chris Stinson — At Large; Leif Grina, Retiree Representative; Paul Madison, Constituency Representative.

Events

December 31, January 1: Minnesota Orchestra performs Gershwin's 'Rhapsody in Blue'

MINNEAPOLIS — Ring in the New Year at Orchestra Hall with a performance of Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue."

Performances will include: Tuesday, December 31 at 8:30 p.m. and Wednesday, January 1 at 2:00 p.m.

The members of the Minnesota Orchestra are members of Twin Cities Musicians Union Local 30-73.

George Gershwin's now classic

"Rhapsody in Blue" first was performed February 12, 1924 and was part of a trend to blend jazz and classical music in the concert hall. George Antheil's "Jazz Symphony," which first was performed in 1925, also will be on the program.

The New Year's Eve ticket includes vintage jazz from Belle Amour and a champagne toast.

Visit minnesotaorchestra.org for tickets and additional information.

January 9-12: AFL-CIO hosts annual MLK Civil and Human Rights Conference in Austin, TX

AUSTIN, TEXAS — Registration is due by December 24 for the national AFL-CIO's annual "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Civil and Human Rights Conference."

This year's conference will run January 9-12 in Austin, Texas.

The conference aims to celebrate the legacy of Dr. King, reinforce the long-standing bond between the labor and civil rights movements, and prepare and empower participants to carry on the

fight for justice and equality.

The conference will feature keynote speakers, panel discussions and "boot camps" to teach organizing skills.

The registration cost is \$275, or \$200 for young workers age 35 and under.

Visit themlkconference.org for more information.

If you're seeking financial support to attend, the website's "Details" link includes a sample "justification letter" to submit to your union or organization.

January 18: 'People's March Minnesota' plans march, State Capitol rally on eve of Trump2.0

SAINT PAUL — Eight years ago, when Donald Trump first took office, more than 100,000 Minnesotans marched to the Minnesota State Capitol to rally and voice support for women's rights and justice for all.

Building on the Women's March Minnesota movement, organizers plan a march and Minnesota State Capitol rally

Saturday, January 18 — two days before Donald Trump will be sworn in for a second term as President.

The "People's March Minnesota" march will begin at 12:00 noon, followed by a 1:00 p.m. rally with speakers at the State Capitol. Starting location for the march is to be announced.

For updates: womensmarchmn.com.

'Fare For All' announces 2025 schedule for 'pop-up' grocery sales, 40 percent savings

MINNEAPOLIS — Offering savings for everyone, Fare For All has announced its 2025 schedule of "pop-up" grocery sales at community sites across the region.

Fare For All offers a savings of 40 percent on grocery items.

Fare For All's regular offerings include a produce pack for \$10, a mini meat pack for \$11, a mega meat pack for \$25. Other monthly specials also are available.

Fare For All is open to everyone and has no income requirements.

Cash, credit cards, debit cards, and EBT cards are accepted. Checks are not accepted. No need to call or register in

advance — just stop in to shop!

Since the *Labor Review* does not publish in January, here is the coming schedule for January and February for Fare For All's sites in the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation's seven-county region, listed alphabetically by city:

■ **Anoka, Thursdays, January 23 and February 27, 4:00–6:00 p.m.**, Zion Lutheran Church, 1601 S. 4th Ave.

■ **Blaine, Thursdays, January 16 and February 20, 3:00–5:00 p.m.**, Christ Lutheran Church, 641 89th Ave. NE.

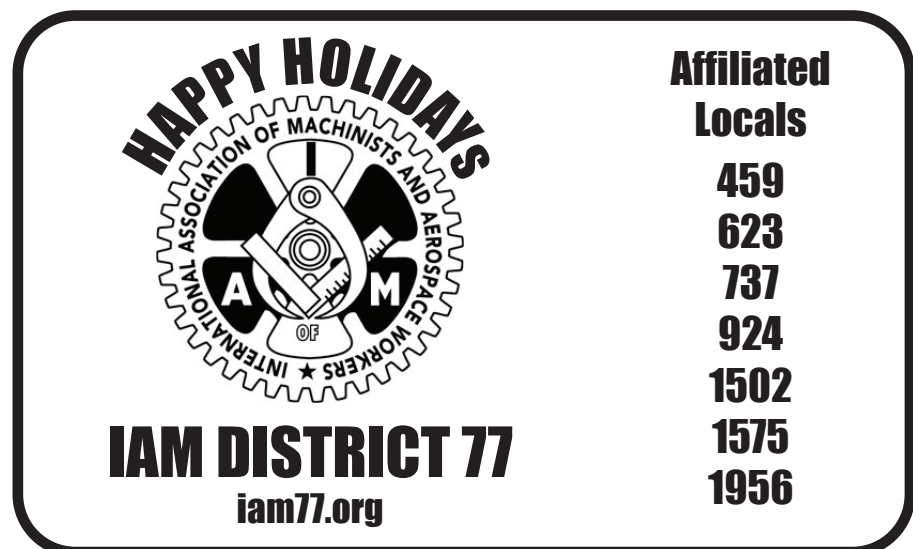
■ **Bloomington, Fridays, January** FARE FOR ALL page 4



Happy Holidays!

Melissa Hortman
State Representative
melissahortman.com

Prepared and paid for by the Melissa Hortman Campaign Committee, www.melissahortman.com.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

IAM DISTRICT 77
iam77.org

Affiliated Locals

459
623
737
924
1502
1575
1956



TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION

OPERATING ENGINEERS PATHWAY

LOCAL49.ORG/PATHWAY

HIGH SCHOOL, APPRENTICESHIP AND COLLEGE CREDIT AVAILABLE





HAPPY HOLIDAYS

FROM KARI REHRAUER

Proud Union Member since 1999
Representative-Elect in 35B
Coon Rapids, Andover

AND THANK YOU
FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT!

Prepared and paid for by the Kari (Rehrauer)
for Minnesota committee, kariformn.com



More Events

January 29: Unions, grassroots groups plan 'We Make Minnesota' rally at State Capitol

SAINT PAUL — Unions and grassroots groups active in the We Make Minnesota Coalition plan a rally at the Minnesota State Capitol Wednesday, January 29 from 1:30-5:00 p.m.

The rally is part of a campaign to boost state revenues to invest in Minnesota's future.

Union members of the coalition include: AFSCME Council 5, AFSCME Council 65; Education Minnesota; Interfaculty Organization; LIUNA, Minnesota Association of Professional Employees, Minnesota Nurses Association, SEIU Healthcare Minnesota and Iowa; SEIU Minnesota State Council.

Grassroots coalition members include

Faith in Minnesota and Move Minnesota.

With the 2025 session of the Minnesota legislature scheduled to convene January 14, the coalition's website reads, "as elected officials make decisions about the budget, it's time to recognize that We Make Minnesota — regular people across race, gender, and zip code. We have made it clear that we want the leaders we chose to choose care and choose fairness, in our budgets and in our lives. It's overdue for the wealthy and corporations to pay their fair contribution to make a Minnesota that works for all of us."

Visit wemakemn.com for more information.

February 23: Explore Minnesota labor history at Mill City Museum with an indoor tour

MINNEAPOLIS — Join a Mill City Museum tour guide Sunday, February 23 for a "Minnesota Labor History Tour."

The tour runs from 10:00-11:30 a.m. at the Mill City Museum, 704 South 2nd St. in Minneapolis.

The tour will tell of the actions taken by workers and activists to improve the lives of working people, including those in the milling industry and in related industries throughout the city.

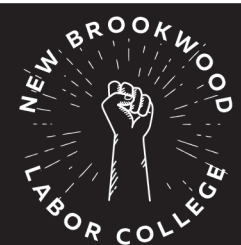
Tour guests will also gain insight into how labor was divided across lines of race, class, and gender and the role of organized labor today.

Among the stories highlighted will be the 1903 and 1917 flour milling strikes, the Teamsters strikes of 1934 and the anti-union Citizens Alliance, and the life and career of Nellie Stone Johnson, a union organizer and the first African American elected to citywide office in Minneapolis.

The tour cost is \$25, with a 25 percent discount for Minnesota Historical Society members.

Visit mnhs.org/events/3105 for more information or to register for the tour.

For the same tour Saturday, April 12, visit mnhs.org/events/3106.



COLLEGE FOR UNIONS! WINTER & SPRING CLASSES

RESISTANCE SCHOOL

WEDNESDAYS

JAN 22-FEB 26, 6:30-8:30

RESISTANCE SCHOOL IS FOR UNION LEADERS, ORGANIZERS, AND GRASSROOTS ACTIVISTS — LEARN TO RESIST RIGHT-WING POLICIES AND ADVANCE PROGRESSIVE CHANGE.

LABOR LAW FOR ORGANIZERS

MONDAYS

MARCH 16-MAY 31

6:00-8:30

WORKING CLASS HISTORY

WEDNESDAYS

MARCH 16-MAY 31

6:00-8:30

LABOR ORGANIZING IN THE FACE OF STRUGGLE

TUESDAYS

MARCH 16-MAY 31

6:00-8:30

& MORE!



ALL CLASSES ONLINE UNLESS NOTED! TIMES LISTED CENTRAL TIME.
REGISTER TODAY! NEWBROOKWOOD.ORG/REGISTER

Save these 2025 dates!



- COPE Brunch
January 10
- Workers Memorial Day
April 28
- Fishing Trip
May 21
- Trade Night at Target Field
June 25
- MN Building Trades Convention
July 23-25
- DADs Day Golf Tournament
September 3

Please contact us for more information.

mplstrades.org

For more information: 612-379-4234

Fare for All

continued from page 3

17 and February 21, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Ave. So.

■ Buffalo, Tuesdays, January 7 and February 11, 4:00–6:00 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1200 Highway 25 South.

■ Chaska, Thursdays, January 23 and February 27, 4:00–6:00 p.m., Crown of Glory Lutheran Church, 1141 Cardinal St.

■ Fridley, Fridays, January 24 and February 28, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Fridley Community Center, 6085 7th Street NE.

■ Golden Valley, Fridays, January 24 and February 8, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Animal Humane Society, 845 Meadow Lane N.

■ Hutchinson, Thursdays, January 9 and February 13, 3:30–5:30 p.m.,

Oak Heights Church, 1398 South Grade Road SW.

■ New Hope, Wednesdays, January 15 and February 19, 3:00–5:00 p.m., St. Joseph Parish Center, 8701 36th Ave. N.

■ Norwood Young America, Thursdays (new day), January 2 and February 6, 3:00–5:00 p.m., All Saints Lutheran Church, 511 Merger St. (no December date at this location).

■ Richfield, Tuesdays, January 14 and February 25, 1:00–3:00 p.m., Richfield Community Center, 7000 Nicollet Ave. So.

■ St. Louis Park, Wednesdays, January 15 and February 19, 4:00–6:00 p.m., Vista Lutheran Church, 4003 Wooddale Ave. So.

Note: Fare For All no longer will be available in northeast Minneapolis at Mill City Church, 685 13th Ave. NE.

See www.fareforall.org for more information and dates for all 32 locations.

A HOLIDAY MESSAGE

TO OUR TRADES MEMBERS:

'Twas the season of building, and all through the site,
Our crews kept on working from morning to night.
With hammers and grit, you build futures and dreams,
The true stars of Christmas, or so it seems.

So here's to our members, so skillful and bold,
Who work through the frost, the wind, and the cold.
This Christmas, we thank you for all that you make,
For all of the buildings, the homes, and the stake!

May your holidays shine, with joy, warmth, and cheer,
And your wallet grow big with a prosperous new year!

 **Building Trades
Credit Union**
763.315.3888
buildingtradesCU.com



Happy Holidays!

*Wishing You a Joyful,
Healthy, Prosperous 2025*



LiUNA!
Feel the Power

Construction & General Laborers' Union
Local 563

www.local563.org



McGough extends a **THANK YOU**
to all of the Union workers who
have helped us build high quality
structures for more than six decades.



McGOUGH

www.mcgough.com

Competitors put their skills to the test at the Women Building Success 'Trade Games'

By Michael Moore, editor,
Saint Paul Union Advocate

SAINT PAUL — It wasn't gold, silver or bronze, but there was plenty of metal in play during the Trade Games Challenge at St. Paul Pipefitters Local 455's training center November 21.

Hosted by Women Building Success (WBS) to celebrate National Apprenticeship Week, the friendly, hands-on competition drew nearly 200 participants in its second year.

"This event has hands-on challenge activities for each trade," said WBS board member Jenny Winkelaar, director of workforce and community development for Operating Engineers Local 49. "It is a fun way to showcase what the trades have to offer."

Competitors included apprentices, journey workers and community members with an interest in exploring careers in the union construction trades.

Participants walked from station to station on the shop floor, trying their hand at challenges sponsored by different local union apprenticeship programs. Each union designed the challenge to reflect their unique craft.

At booths hosted by Plumbers Local 34 and Sprinkler Fitters Local 417, instructors timed competitors as they followed the instructions for connecting pieces of pipe into a "pipe guy." Insulators Local 34 challenged competitors to affix insulation to the proper place on a pipe structure, like a puzzle.

Some Trade Games challenges pitted competitors against each other. Laborers

Local 563 held wheelbarrow races. At Pipefitters Local 455's station, it was a chain hoist race, with competitors racing to raise their large spool to the finish point fastest.

Madi Jennings, a fourth-year apprentice with the Insulators union, tied rebar at Ironworkers Local 512's station, clocking the second-fastest time of the event's early session. Local 512 training coordinator Erik Hansen said that it's good for apprentices like Jennings to gain exposure to other crafts — and good for apprenticeship programs' recruitment efforts, too.

"We're hoping this kind of becomes a word-of-mouth thing," Hansen said. "OK, you're already in a trade, but maybe you know someone considering their options, and you tell them, 'hey, check out the Ironworkers.'"

For competitors like Matt Segal, who learned about the event from a friend, the Trade Games Challenge also served as a career fair. After working in the tech industry for a decade, he's looking for a change.

"I'm exploring my options and seeing what's out there," Segal, 34, said after splitting a pair of chain hoist races — hosted by the Pipefitters — with IBEW Local 110 member Marisa McAndrew. "I like working with my hands, and I'd like to learn some skills that I can take with me — that are applicable in my home and anywhere I go."

"It's been exciting to be here and talk not only to trades instructors, but tradespeople, too," Segal said.

For most attendees, though, the pri-



Saint Paul Union Advocate photo

Dorlisa Squires, an apprentice with Local 49 (left), and Glenda Tejada (right) race to assemble a "pipe guy" at Sprinklerfitters Local 417's challenge.

mary objective was fun and fellowship.

At Cement Masons Local 633's station, that meant playing in the "mud," as competitors raced to flatten and level wet cement, edge the sides and install control joints — the cuts in walkways or other slabs that allow for movement due to temperature or moisture.

Local 633 apprentice Grace Olson was not tempted to leave her craft behind after trying the virtual spraypainting booth, hosted by the Finishing Trades Institute, Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) District Council 82's training arm.

"I think I did OK, but I probably could have done better," the third-year apprentice laughed. "I think I over-sprayed it a little."

But Plumbers Local 34 apprentice Karen Severson joked that she "might switch trades" after climbing into the excavator that Operating Engineers Local 49 parked inside the Pipefitters' training hall, challenging participants to pick up and transfer a flagpole from one road cone to another. "That was fun," Severson said.

WBS was founded in 2017 to recognize and promote the achievements of women in union construction trades. WBS hosts an annual awards ceremony, an apprenticeship photo contest and other events.

For more information:
womenbuildingsuccess.org

Holiday Shopping & Entertainment Guide

The 2025 LIBERATION CALENDAR
THE RICARDO LEVINS MORALES LIBERATION CALENDAR
a great union-made gift from
RLMartStudio.com



Union House

HOLIDAY SHOPPING SPECIAL
LABOR ONLINE ORDERS
10% OFF FOR UNION MEMBERS
ONLINE DISCOUNT CODE
LAB21

BOOTS AND SHOES - UNION MADE JEANS & SHIRTS
UNION MADE MENS UNDERWEAR & SOCKS
WANT IT UNION MADE OR USA MADE CALL US

651-462-7710 BUY UNION 651-462-7710
BUY AMERICAN

SUPPORT MINNESOTA
UNION ORGANIZED COMPANIES

SHOP WORK CLOTHING ONLINE @ UNIONLABEL.COM

Meshbeshner & Spence

WORKERS COMP LAWYERS

MESHBESHNER.COM

HVAC 911

Emergency Heating & Air Conditioning Services 1-Click Away

MINNEAPOLIS

612-800-8026

CALL NOW



Pipefitters Local 539 is proud to service the Minneapolis region through this all union program!



Call HVAC 911 to get union-trained service technicians for all your residential HVAC Work 24/7/365

Wishing our members and all working families a safe and

Happy New Year

From the officers, executive board and members of

PPPWU Local 1-M

Printing, Packaging & Production Workers Union



Hennepin County AFSCME Local 2822
Clerical & Related Employees

Proud to support our sisters, brothers and siblings fighting for the rights of all working people!

"We're the front line, not the bottom line"

**TEAMSTERS
LOCAL 120**



*Happy
Holidays!*

www.teamsterslocal120.org

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable holiday

From the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota
Organized Labor Department
(651) 662-7821



Blue Cross® and Blue Shield® of Minnesota and Blue Plus® are nonprofit independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.



*Best Wishes for Healthy
and Happy Holidays!*

www.local322.net

Happy Holidays!
Wilson-McShane Corporation
*Plan Administrators for
Taft-Hartley Trust Funds*

Since our first client in 1969, our goal is to provide high quality service to each and every individual we serve.

Locations:

- Bloomington, MN
- St. Paul, MN
- Duluth, MN
- Kansas City, MO
- Las Vegas, NV
- Downers Grove, IL
- Oak Brook, IL
- Altoona, IA
- Papillion, NE
- Altoona, WI
- Elm Grove, WI
- Kaukauna, WI
- Pewaukee, WI

www.wilson-mcshane.com

United States Senator
Amy Klobuchar



*Wishing You
Happy
Holidays*

Paid for and authorized by Klobuchar for Minnesota
• www.amyklobuchar.com • P.O. Box 4146 • St. Paul, MN 55104

HAPPY
Holidays

Sending warm wishes for a new year of opportunity and prosperity for all.

Council 5
AFSCME
www.afscmemn.org



*May Your
Holidays Be
Filled With
All The
Season's Joy*



**PIPEFITTERS
LOCAL UNION NO. 539**

312 Central Ave., Room 408
Minneapolis, MN 55414
www.pipefitters539.com

**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**

FROM YOUR LABOR CHAMPION

ilhan

Paid for by Ilhan for Congress

UNITED STEELWORKERS
USW
UNITY AND STRENGTH FOR WORKERS

Best Wishes for the New Year!

*From your brothers and sisters of
USW Local 2002*

 **atu**
AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION



Holiday Greetings!

From the Members of Local 1005

Labor Secretary: Nominee Lori Chavez-DeRemer earned 10 percent AFL-CIO voting score

continued from page 1

scenes advocacy. O'Brien also made a public case for Chavez-DeRemer in a November 21 op-ed in the online magazine *Compact*.

"Trump has workers to thank for his decisive victory," O'Brien wrote. "By nominating Representative Chavez-DeRemer, he can show that he stands by the people who are sending him back to the Oval Office come January."

Chavez-DeRemer is the daughter of a Teamster. And during her one two-year term representing Oregon's Fifth Congressional District, she worked to build relationships with organized labor, more than almost any other Republican in Congress. She helped unions in dozens of small ways, like signing letters of support for UPS Teamsters and voting on bills and amendments in line with union recommendations. She also signed on as a cosponsor of symbolically important bills such as the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO Act), which would reform America's labor law to make it easier for workers to join a union and get a first contract.

The national AFL-CIO, however, gave Chavez-DeRemer a pro-labor voting score of just 10 percent in the labor federation's voting scorecard for 2023, the latest year available (the average House Republican had an AFL-CIO voting score of only 6 percent).

A departure from Trump's previous picks for Labor Secretary?

Chavez-DeRemer's labor record appears to make her nomination a big departure from Trump's first term, when all three of his labor secretary nominees were drawn from business:

His first pick was fast food CEO Andrew Puzder, a foe of raising the minimum wage who had raised money for the Trump campaign. Puzder withdrew before being confirmed after it was revealed that he'd employed an undocumented immigrant as a housekeeper.

Trump's next appointee, Alexander Acosta, served two years, but resigned after it came to light that as a federal prosecutor he had agreed not to pursue charges against sex trafficking hedge fund investor Jeffrey Epstein.

The third was corporate lawyer Eugene Scalia, son of late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia.

Given that line-up, Chavez-DeRemer's nomination "could signal a break from the GOP's traditionally adversarial stance toward unions," said the *Wall Street Journal*.

"Lori has worked tirelessly with both business and labor to build America's workforce and support the hardworking men and women of America," Trump said announcing the nomination. "I look



Photo: Lori Chavez-DeRemer for Congress

forward to working with her to create tremendous opportunity for Americans workers, to expand training and apprenticeships, to grow wages and improve working conditions, to bring back our manufacturing jobs."

"Thank you for this opportunity, President Trump!" Chavez-DeRemer said on x.com. "Working-class Americans finally have a lifeline with you in the White House. It's time to bring our economy to new heights and secure a prosperous future for all hardworking Americans."

When a Democrat controls the White House, the Labor Department uses its powers to expand workers rights — and vice versa when Republicans come to power

Chavez-DeRemer declined an interview request from the *Labor Press*, with a spokesperson saying she wouldn't be available for interviews for the time being. It's not uncommon for nominees to go silent until the Senate confirmation process is complete.

Labor unions reacted positively to her nomination.

"Lori Chavez-DeRemer has built a pro-labor record in Congress," said a statement attributed to AFL-CIO president Liz Shuler. The statement praised Chavez-DeRemer for co-sponsoring the PRO Act and the Public Service Freedom to Negotiate Act, which would guarantee union rights for state and local public

employees and overturn the Supreme Court's Janus decision. But the statement also cast doubt on her ability to protect workers rights: "It remains to be seen what she will be permitted to do as Secretary of Labor in an administration with a dramatically anti-worker agenda."

Teamsters president O'Brien thanked Trump in a post to x.com "for putting American workers first by nominating Representative Lori Chavez-DeRemer for U.S. Labor Secretary."

Depending on which party is in power, Department of Labor reverses direction

The Secretary of Labor oversees the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), a sprawling agency with nearly 17,000 employees and more than two dozen divisions. DOL enforces minimum wage and overtime laws, oversees state unemployment insurance programs, and dispenses workforce training grants. It also encompasses the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, among other sub-agencies.

DOL has repeatedly reversed direction in recent decades in how it interprets labor laws passed by Congress. When a Democrat takes control of the White House, the DOL uses its administrative powers to expand workers rights — and vice versa when Republicans come to power.

For example, the 1938 Fair Labor Standards Act requires that employees be paid "time-and-a-half" when they work overtime, and it has exceptions for salaried employees like managers. But an employer can't get out of paying overtime just by calling someone manage-

ment and paying them on a salaried basis. DOL sets a salary threshold: Below it, a worker can't be considered a manager who's exempt from overtime. President Barack Obama's DOL tried to raise the threshold from \$23,660 to \$47,476 a year, but business groups sued, saying it was unreasonable to double the threshold, and a federal judge blocked it. Then the Trump DOL knocked the increase down to \$35,568 a year. President Joe Biden's DOL adjusted that for inflation, and it reached \$43,888; Biden's DOL then proposed to raise it to \$58,656 as of January 2025, but once again, business groups sued and a Texas judge put the increase on hold.

As Shuler alluded, it's not clear how much latitude Chavez-DeRemer herself will have to make policy. Cabinet members carry out the policies of the administrations they serve.

Before becoming labor secretary, Chavez-DeRemer will need to be confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Trump will take the oath of office January 20, but it could be several months before the Senate holds a hearing and a confirmation vote.

Chavez-DeRemer ran for re-election with some union endorsements but not from Oregon AFL-CIO

In her losing campaign for a second term in the U.S. House of Representatives, Lori Chavez-DeRemer did not receive the Oregon AFL-CIO's endorsement but nonetheless was endorsed by more Oregon unions than her Democratic opponent Janelle Bynum — 17 unions in all: IAFF, IBEW Local 48, Teamsters Joint Council 37, Elevator Constructors Local 23, Operating Engineers Local 701, Painters District Council 5, Ironworkers Local 29, Sheet Metal Local 16, UA Local 290, Carpenters, Flight Attendants, AFGE, Airline Pilots, BRS, MMP, MEBA, and SIU.

Prior to running for the U.S. House in 2022, Chavez-DeRemer won election to the Happy Valley, Oregon city council in 2004 and later served as city council president. She won election as the mayor of Happy Valley (population 23,733 in 2020) in 2010 and was re-elected in 2014, serving until 2018. She ran unsuccessfully for the Oregon State House in 2016 and 2018.

In the 2024 election, it was Oregon AFL-CIO endorsed candidate Janelle Bynum — who defeated Chavez-DeRemer in those 2016 and 2018 Oregon House races — who beat back Chavez-DeRemer's bid for re-election as Oregon's 5th District U.S. Representative. Bynum won the seat with a 2.73 percent margin of victory.

Find the Northwest Labor Press online at nwlaborpress.org.

This story includes some additional reporting by the *Minneapolis Labor Review*.

State's unions announce 2024 lobby days

MINNEAPOLIS — The 2025 session of the Minnesota legislature begins January 14 and over the following weeks Minnesota unions will bring members to the State Capitol to lobby legislators in-person — and to rally in the Capitol rotunda — calling for action on their legislative agendas.

As the *Labor Review* went to press, the calendar for union lobby days or for a “Day on the Hill” so far includes:

Tuesday, February 25
Minnesota Nurses Association
 mnnurses.org

Wednesday, March 26
SEIU Minnesota State Council
 seiumn.org

Tuesday, April 1
AFSCME Council 5
 afscmemn.org

Thursday, April 3
North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters
 northcountrycarpenter.org

Union members should check their union websites or Facebook pages for additional information about plans for the day, including how to register in advance.

Wednesday, January 29
We Make Minnesota Coalition
 wemakemn.com

Tuesday, February 25
IBEW Local 292
 Call 612-379-1292 to register
 ibew292.org/event/2025-day-on-the-hill/

Minnesota House will convene without three long-serving labor allies, who have retired

By Steve Share,
 Labor Review editor

SAINT PAUL — Three long-serving allies of organized labor will be missing when the Minnesota House of Representatives convenes in January. State Representatives Frank Hornstein, Michael Nelson and Jerry Newton all chose to retire rather than to seek re-election in 2024.

Between them, the three DFL lawmakers retired with 58 years of legislative service.

“I’ve always been proud to march with labor,” said Frank Hornstein, who first was elected to represent southwest Minneapolis in 2002. Over 11 terms in the House, Hornstein earned a lifetime voting score of 98 percent from the Minnesota AFL-CIO on working families issues.

“I’m just so cognizant labor is part of any social justice effort,” Hornstein said. Hornstein cited his work in partnership with several unions over the years.

With AFSCME, he advocated for progressive taxation and for closing corporate loopholes and against privatization of public services.

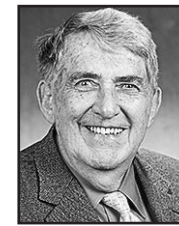
As chair of the House transportation committee, Hornstein shepherded into law 2023’s massive \$1.3 billion transportation bill, which will fund roads, bridges, and transit along with bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure statewide. But he emphasized: “We wouldn’t have a transportation bill without LIUNA. They provide the political muscle to get that through.”



Frank Hornstein



Michael Nelson



Jerry Newton

In the 2024 session, Hornstein helped lead the effort to fund the Rise Up Center, an initiative which will transform the former Uptown YWCA in Minneapolis into a job training hub. Labor partners in the project included SEIU Local 26, UNITE HERE Local 17, UFCW Local 663 and the Minnesota AFL-CIO’s Minnesota Training Partnership.

“I look forward in whatever I continue to do to work alongside labor for a better world,” Hornstein said.

Elected the same year as Hornstein, Michael Nelson also served 11 terms and 22 years. “I was elected the year Paul Wellstone’s plane went down,” he noted.

Nelson was working as a business agent for the Carpenters union when he won election to represent Brooklyn Park. “I would go back to that [union work] as soon as the session ended,” he said. He retired from his business agent’s position 12 years ago.

As a union member who ran for public office, “I’ve spoken up... to encourage people to step up and run,” Nelson said.

“It’s important to have union representatives at the legislature,” Nelson said. “We understand what collective bargaining is all about” — and all the issues that **LEGISLATORS page 15**

2025 Political Calendar

January 14

Minnesota legislature convenes

July 19-20

Minneapolis DFL Convention

April 8

Minneapolis DFL Precinct Caucuses

August 12

Primary Election

April 26-May 31

Minneapolis DFL Ward Conventions
 (April 26, May 3, 4, 10, 11, 31)

September 19

Early voting begins for General Election

May 19

Minnesota legislature adjourns

November 4

General Election

June 27

Early voting begins for Primary Election

For voting information:
 mnvotes.org

Happy Holidays to our union brothers and sisters!

Steve SIMON

SECRETARY OF STATE

Thank you for being my partner in the democracy business.

Prepared and paid for by Simon for Secretary of State Committee • stevesimonmn.com

Minneapolis

continued from page 1

workers had an equitable voice... to advise this policy-making body,” council member Chowdhury said. She said Frey’s proposal to give 50 percent of the seats on the board to business and 50 percent to workers — and require a two-thirds majority to advance recommendations to the city council — “is a veto essentially given to business representatives.”

Chowdhury feared worker voices “will be stomped out.”

She also feared that the result of a two-year process to engage workers in developing the Labor Standards Board proposal would leave participants in the process “demoralized.”

“This was an opportunity to bring people together for an advisory board,” she said. “We have missed that opportu-

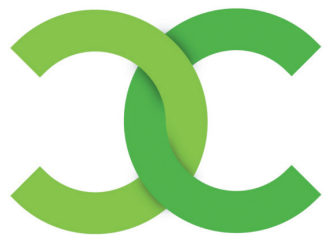
nity.”

Council Member Chavez said he was “super disappointed” that the veto override effort failed. He commented, “the mayor’s proposal as I read it cares more about corporations than the mother struggling to stay afloat” — and who is working three jobs. “Working people deserve a shot in this city,” he said, and the city council will advance labor policy.

Greg Nammacher, president of SEIU Local 26, commented: “At a time when a federal cabinet of billionaires hellbent on enriching themselves is about to get sworn in at the national level, it’s fairly shocking that Mayor Frey is taking this extreme position that employers need more power for him to come back to supporting a Board he previously supported. If the Mayor wants to put forward this ‘No Standards Board’ that protects business interests at all cost, he can propose one. Our groups will be actively opposing it.”

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

*May the New Year be happy
and healthy for everyone*



**CUMMINS
&
CUMMINS**

Moving forward with the labor movement

www.cummins-law.com
920 Second Ave. S., Suite 1245
Minneapolis, MN 55402
612.465.0108

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

From The Labor Temple Association

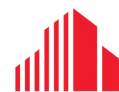
Office Space for Lease **UNITED LABOR CENTRE**

Suites available from 200–3,000 SF.
Great local amenities in NE Mpls.
Contact Kenwood Commercial,
Holly Becker, 651-666-8516 or
hbecker@kenwoodcommercial.com

Managed by Brenda Thomas, 952-465-3350



KENWOOD
COMMERCIAL



**CUSHMAN &
WAKEFIELD**

Happy Holidays



**Campaign and Union Mailing Proudly
Represented by USW Local 1259!**

A PERFECT MATCH



Seven Corners
Print & Promo

AND



1928 County Rd C West
Roseville MN 55113
(952) 237-0795 • Michele@1stcmm.com
1stcmm.com

Congratulations Greta Callahan!

Minneapolis School Board Member-Elect



Thank you to everyone who supported Greta's campaign!

*We're thrilled to see our former MFT Teacher Chapter president join the
Minneapolis School Board as an advocate for students, families and staff*



Independent expenditure prepared and paid for by Local 59 Political Committee, 67 8th Ave. NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413

Concrete Christmas

Cement Masons apprentices learn and practice new skills while creating holiday-themed display

By Steve Share, Labor Review editor

NEW BRIGHTON — “Everybody that comes in here might remember 3.14 is ‘pi,’ but how does that apply to a circle function?” Brian Farmer, instructor at the Cement Masons Training Center, explained how apprentices gained and practiced skills they can use on the job while participating in the center’s annual “Concrete Christmas” training exercise.

This year, the showcase of the holiday-themed display which the apprentices created was a circular set of steps, four steps high, each circular step smaller in circumference as the steps rose.

“Of course I had to complicate things and make it circular,” Farmer joked.

The project also included a “Type S Curb,” used in roundabouts, which are sloped and surmountable so a vehicle easily can drive over it.

This year’s project also included different types of curbs, drain slabs, sloping sidewalks, and examples of stenciled, stamped and dyed concrete.

Apprentice Chase Newton, Woodbury, worked to build those circular steps. “It was challenging,” he said. “We had to tweak some things... It turned out really good.”

“I did non-union concrete for six years,” Newton shared. “I heard a lot about the union from a couple of people who are retired and all the good things about it. So I was able to get in. With his prior experience, he added, “they started me out at Year Three.”

Cement Masons Local 633 journey worker and former apprentice Nico Arrieta stopped by the training center to check-out this year’s Concrete Christmas work and to see what’s new. “Detail is my thing,” he said. “What I look for is color matching, different things that go unnoticed, what could have been different.” Companies want a certain level of quality, he added.



Apprentice Chase Newton joined Cement Masons Local 633 after working non-union concrete: “The way everybody here does things seems to be different.”



A set of circular steps was the focal point for this year’s Concrete Christmas display.



The reindeer figure was created with an individual stamp.

Instructor Farmer called Arrieta “a concrete artist,” saying, “he’s definitely an innovator. We talk a lot throughout the year.

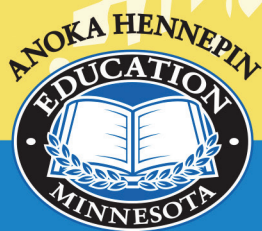
“Farmer has taught me a lot,” Arrieta said. “He’s always one step ahead.”

“I’ll always keep coming back,” Arrieta said. “The brotherhood we’ve created here, it’s great!”



Nico Arrieta, eight-year member of Local 633: “I’ve grown not just in my trade, but I’ve grown as a man... to continue to excel, not just in my job but in life.”

Season’s Greetings from
the more than 3,000
Anoka Hennepin Education
Minnesota members!



ahem.mn.aft.org

[f](#) Anoka Hennepin Education Minnesota

[x](#) Follow us: @AHM_7007

BAKERY, CONFECTIONERY, TOBACCO WORKERS, & GRAIN MILLERS UNION LOCAL 22

For holiday entertaining, please buy Local 22 made products at your local union grocery store!

Fresh-baked cakes for special occasions and other goodies created by Local 22 members available at:

- Almsted’s Fresh Market (Crystal, MN)
- County Market (North Branch, MN & Hudson, WI)
- Cub Foods
- Driskill’s Foods (Hopkins, MN)
- Jerry’s Foods
- Lunds and Byerlys



Quality grocery favorites produced locally by Local 22 members:

- Country Hearth & Lakeland products (Pan-O-Gold Bakery)
- Dream Fields Pasta
- Old Dutch products
- Pearson’s Candy Company
- Sara Lee buns & bread, Ballpark buns (Bimbo Bakeries USA)

Hennepin County AFSCME Rally

AFSCME members rally, 750 strong, to urge fair contract from Hennepin County



AFSCME members marched and rallied outside Hennepin County Government Center November 12.



An estimated 750 members attended, a largest-ever turnout.



Amanda Gustafson (left), president of AFSCME Local 2864: "When the commissioners wanted to give themselves a raise, they brought up the fact that we were the largest county in the state... The commissioners landed on five percent for two years in a row. We should also get five percent."

MINNEAPOLIS — A windy, frigid November 12 didn't stop Hennepin County AFSCME members from marching and rallying outside Hennepin County Government Center. AFSCME leaders estimated that a record turn-out of 750 members attended, based on sign-in sheets and the number of green AFSCME hats distributed.

The rally was one of many actions waged by the county's AFSCME locals as they campaigned for a fair contract.

"We're under-staffed and underpaid," said Grace Baltich, AFSCME Local 34 president and one of several speakers at the rally. "Hennepin County does not pay enough to attract and retain our staff. They have given [county administrator] David Hough 20 percent. What do they offer us? Three percent... We say, hell no, we deserve better."

"We're not fighting to buy a second home or to buy a yacht," said Adam Tomczik, president of AFSCME Local 2938. "We're fighting to keep our heads above water." With record inflation, he



State Senator John Hoffman was one of several elected officials who spoke at the rally. Hoffman chairs the Minnesota Senate's Human Services Committee. He urged, "Hennepin County, do the right thing."

noted, "everything's more expensive."

Nine days later, five AFSCME locals representing 4,000 members reached tentative agreements November 21 with the county — winning an across-the-board four percent increase and other gains.

See story page 21.



Wishes you and your families a
Happy & Safe Holiday Season!

plumberslocal15.com

SHEET METAL | AIR | RAIL | TRANSPORTATION



Have a Safe and
Happy Holiday!

SMART-TD Minnesota Locals
64, 650, 911, 1000, 1067, 1175,
1177, 1292, 1614 and 1976



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

LAW FIRM

MILLER
O'BRIEN
JENSEN

P.A.

www.mojlaw.com

Experience. Passion. Excellence. Results.

Happy Holidays



Seven Corners
Print & Promo

A PERFECT MATCH



AND



Your Campaign and Union Printing Headquarters!

We are proud that ALL of our production employees from Prepress to Press to Bindery to Shipping Preparation are

ALL Union AND in St. Paul!

**Please keep your printing in Minnesota
and support Minnesota Union Employees!**

Helping you communicate since 1913

1099 Snelling Ave. No
Saint Paul, MN 55108

www.7cpc.com
dan@7cpc.com



P: 651-222-8381



Happy Holidays to my
Union Brothers and Sisters!

**John
Hoffman**

STATE SENATOR • DISTRICT 34

Brooklyn Park, Champlin,
Coon Rapids, Dayton, Rogers

**Thanks for
your support!**



Paid for by

The Committee to Elect John Hoffman, 8224 109th Place N., Champlin, MN 55316

Best Wishes For
A Joyous Holiday Season
And A Prosperous New Year



Minneapolis and Saint Paul
Stagehands, Wardrobe, Wigs, Hair and Makeup

iatse13.org

Michael
Rainville

Minneapolis City Council
Ward 3

Best Wishes for
the New Year!

rainvilleward3.org

Prepared and paid for by Rainville Volunteer Committee,
PO Box 18753, 1600 18th Ave. NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418

LABOR EDUCATION SERVICE

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

*Dedicated to building the
power of workers since 1951.*

Trainings & Classes | [Workday Magazine](http://WorkdayMagazine.com) | Archival Resources

www.carlsonschool.umn.edu/LES

www.workdaymagazine.org

612-624-5020

@WorkdayMagazine

@LaborEdMN



Hopkins • St. Louis Park • Edina

ronlatz.org

3rd Generation Supporting Labor

Happy Holidays!

Prepared and paid for by the Latz for Senate Volunteer Committee
Gary Cohen, Treasurer 4530 Douglas Avenue, Golden Valley, MN 55416

Enjoy the Boundary Waters



ROCKWOOD
GUNFLINT TRAIL

www.rockwoodbwca.com

Canoe rental, outfitting packages

Day trips or overnight camping

Solo, small groups or large

218 - 388 - 2242

Classes

January 4, 8, 11: Learn about training to become an EMS at information sessions

MINNEAPOLIS — Applications will be accepted from December 30 to January 13 for the 2025 EMS Pathways Academy Student Internship.

This 12-week Emergency Medical Technician training and certification course begins March 10 and will meet Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The cost is free and participants will be paid \$17.05 per hour.

The program aims to help the Minneapolis Fire Department and Hennepin EMS workforce to better reflect the diversity of the communities they serve.

Graduates of this program have been hired as Minneapolis Firefighters, Hennepin EMS dispatchers, and into the Hennepin EMS program.

Three information sessions will be offered in January for individuals interested in learning more about the program.

Interested individuals who attend one of the information sessions must stay for the full two-hour session.

The information sessions, all in Minneapolis include:

■ Saturday, January 4, 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon, Minnesota Firefighters Museum, 664 22nd Ave. NE.

■ Wednesday, January 8, 5:00-7:00 p.m., UROC, 2001 Plymouth Ave. N.,

■ Saturday, January 11, 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon, Minneapolis American Indian Center, 1530 E. Franklin Ave.

Apply for the EMS Pathways Academy at minneapolismn.gov/jobs.

January 15: U of M Labor Education Service course digs into worker exploitation issues

MINNEAPOLIS — The University of Minnesota's Labor Education Service (LES) will offer an online, one-day course Jan. 15 on "The Hyper-Exploitation of Contracted Workers." Taught by LES instructor Sarah Lazare and co-hosted by Service Employees (SEIU) Local 26, the course will explore the world of contracted and subcontracted work.

The course description reads: "Did you know that many contracted and subcontracted workers, like childcare workers and front desk attendants, are subject to provisions that limit their freedom to move into a different job, like restrictive covenants or non-compete agreements? Come learn about these measures, and

other workplace issues contracted workers face. And most importantly, learn how they're fighting back!"

The course is part of LES's series of community classes, which offer union members, leaders and activists easy-to-access, low-cost opportunities to learn and grow their skills.

Registration is \$50 for participants sponsored by their union and \$25 for others able to pay. The course is free for anyone who cannot pay.

Register online at z.umn.edu/LE-SCommunityClassesFall2024, or contact LES for more information at 612-624-5020 or les@umn.edu.

Beginning January 22: New Brookwood Labor College offers weekly online courses

SAINT PAUL — New Brookwood Labor College has announced a schedule of four different online courses, which will meet weekly this winter and spring.

First up, "Resistance School," meeting Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. beginning January 22 and running through February 26. This class is for union leaders, organizers and grassroots activists. Learn to resist right-wing policies and advance progressive change.

"Labor Law for Organizers" will be offered Mondays from 6:00-8:30 p.m. beginning March 16 and running through May 31.

"Labor Organizing in the Face of Struggle" will be offered Tuesdays from

6:00-8:30 p.m., beginning March 16 and running through May 31.

"Working Class History" will be offered Wednesdays from 6:00-8:30 p.m., beginning March 16 and running through May 31.

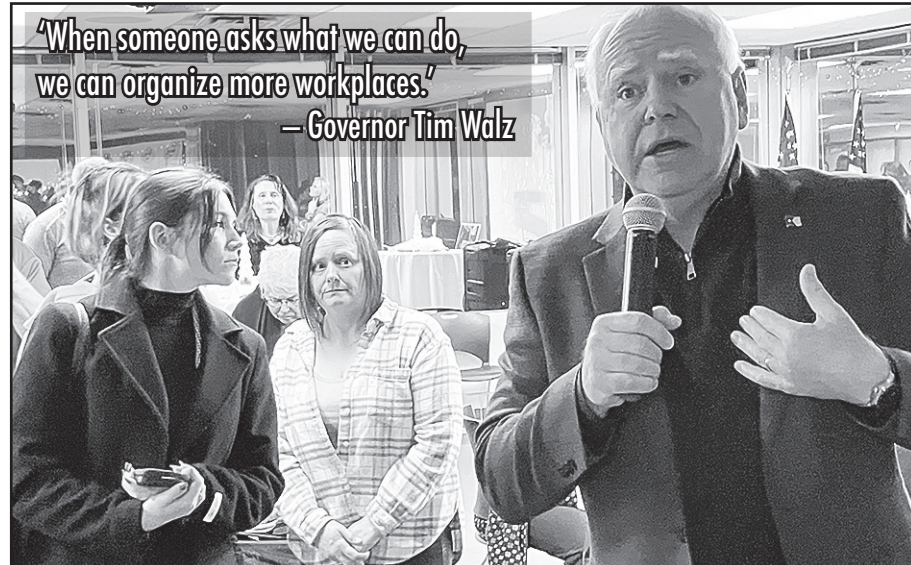
Additional courses also are available. All classes meet online.

All class times listed are for Central Standard Time.

Registration is now open.

For more information, or to register, visit newbrookwood.org/register.

If you are interested in joining and have questions about class format or technology requirements, e-mail Robyn Gulley at rgulley@newbrookwood.org.



Governor Tim Walz spoke at the United Labor Centre December 11.

Governor Tim Walz offers hope and inspiration in remarks at MRLF's annual holiday party

MINNEAPOLIS — Minnesota Governor Tim Walz made his first appearance at the United Labor Centre since his 2024 election loss as running mate for Kamala Harris, speaking briefly to the crowd gathered December 11 at the annual holiday party of the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation, AFL-CIO.

As he traveled the country during the campaign, Walz said, people were talking about all the good things happening in Minnesota — especially labor policy.

"I know it's disappointing now," with the national election results, Walz said. "When someone asks what we can do, we can organize more workplaces... We can work for stronger working laws in Minnesota. Right now, we're going to do what we do in Minnesota."

"Minnesota will continue to provide 'Shelter from the storm,'" Walz said, quoting a Bob Dylan lyric.

Walz sounded a hopeful note: "There's an entire new generation of labor organizers that have come out of the last few years." And he cited progress on issues like paid family leave and paid sick time.

"We didn't win this election but this is one election," Walz said. "We'll weather this storm. We'll come through it. We'll take care of those who are most vulnerable amongst us."

"Use this time to re-energize... strengthen our communities together," Walz said. "Let's do what Minnesotans do best. We'll just get through this long winter that we're about to approach. Spring will come. Spring will come. And it will be labor that will lead us into that sunshine."

Legislators

continued from page 10

concern the building trades.

Nelson's lifetime voting score from the Minnesota AFL-CIO: 99 percent.

Nelson served on the House labor committee and chaired it for two years.

In Nelson's first term, he recalled, he helped to pass a bill addressing worker misclassification — and then, in his last term, he also worked to pass an even more comprehensive bill that is now the nation's strongest law combating worker misclassification.

One of the bills passed over Nelson's 22 years in the House which he said he is most proud of dealt with pensions covered by ERISA — the Employee Retirement Income Security Act. Under state law, the default benefit went only to the retiree with no survivor benefit specified. That situation literally led to a parade of elderly women testifying at House committees who were left with no pension at all when their husbands died. Nelson helped to win a change that established a 50 percent survivor benefit for life as the default.

That very real and tangible change

brings to mind a saying of the late Paul Wellstone: "Politics is about the improvement of people's lives."

First elected in 2009, Jerry Newton served four non-consecutive terms in the Minnesota House and two terms in the Minnesota Senate, for a total of 14 years of legislative service representing Coon Rapids and other northern suburbs.

In Newton's last race, in 2022, he was quoted in the *Labor Review* saying:

"I come from a labor family... I was a laborer, a heavy equipment operator... I've done the jobs of labor and I've always been a strong supporter of labor... I know labor is what created this country and made it what it is today."

A highly-decorated U.S. Army veteran who served in the military for 23 years, Newton was a leading advocate for veterans' issues in the legislature.

The Minnesota AFL-CIO gave Newton a 99 percent lifetime voting score for his eight years in the Minnesota House and a 98 percent lifetime voting score for his six years in the Minnesota Senate.

Newton previously served as a member of the Coon Rapids City Council and Anoka-Hennepin school board member.

Newton could not be reached for comment for this story.

Allina doctors mark one year since union vote with call for progress on contracts

By Michael Moore, editor,
Saint Paul Union Advocate

MINNEAPOLIS — Unionized doctors in the Allina Health system are frustrated with the slow pace of contract negotiations and management's failure to address concerns about ongoing lab-processing delays.

That frustration that boiled over in a press conference outside Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis November 16. Doctors publicly called out members of Allina's board of directors for failing to respond to their letters — sent to each board member individually — warning about the lab delays and their serious impact on patient care.

Not one board member responded, Dr. Matt Hoffman, a family clinician at Allina's Vadnais Heights facility, said.

"What we hear from that is that the board of directors does not seem to care or feel accountable to the communities they serve," Hoffman said. "They certainly don't seem to care or feel accountable to the health care providers who depend on them."

The press event marked one year since 600 physicians at Allina clinics across the region voted to form the largest private-sector doctors' union in the country, joining the Doctors Council, an affiliate of the Service Employees (SEIU) union.

They were the second group of Allina doctors to unionize, following a vote at Mercy-Unity in the north metro that brought together about 150 hospital doctors. The two groups are bargaining first contract with Allina separately.

Members of both bargaining units, wearing their white lab coats, joined the event in Minneapolis. They described shared concerns about the pace of bargaining and the continued corporatiza-



Saint Paul Union Advocate photo

Dr. Jess Boland: "I want another 20 years out of my career, and it's worrisome to think of doing another 20 years with the trends we've seen" in providing patient care.

tion of their health care facilities.

"There are some days where I feel like Allina's representatives are showing up and really being thoughtful (in bargaining), and there are some days where it feels like there are deliberate delays," Dr. Jess Boland, who works in Mercy-Unity's intensive-care unit, said.

Dr. Kristin Sanders-Gendreau, a pediatrician in Allina's Maplewood clinic with 30-plus years of experience, said that Allina executives were "squandering a great opportunity to join with us to make the careful corrections needed in health care to realign and bring the healing relationship between clinician and patient back to the forefront."

"But we need a real seat at the table in order to do so," she added.

The lab delays — which result from Allina's move to outsource its clinical lab work to Quest Diagnostic, a private company, in September — are a point of

contention inside — and outside — bargaining between the clinicians and Allina. Hoffman said his patients have had to wait several days for diagnoses that would previously take hours, delaying necessary care.

"Our CEO, Lisa Shannon, makes \$2.7 million," Hoffman said. "Our health care executives gave themselves 20-30% raises recently. We believe they can bring these services back."

But doctors said Allina's indifference to the delays and disruptions that have come with outsourcing lab work is reflective of a broader approach that prioritizes the bottom line over patient care. It's why doctors are also seeking contract language that would ensure adequate staffing across their facilities — not just for physicians, but for all members of the care team.

"While corporate health care continues to grow, staffing shortages and cost

cutting measures mean we give more of ourselves to deliver the care our patients deserve," Dr. Cora Walsh, who practices at Allina's clinic in West St. Paul, said. "This is why we are fighting for contract protections that will provide us with time, resources and staff to do this essential work."

"When we do this work long after the clinic day has ended or late into the evening, we struggle to provide the care our patients deserve, and we struggle to care for our own well-being."

Boland added, "I want another 20 years out of my career, and it's worrisome to think of doing another 20 years with the trends we've seen of increased administrative distance and decreasing administrative interest in the actual provision of patient care."

Union members said some progress had been made toward a settlement, pointing to language that will create a new mentorship program and a "collaboration council" to give health care professionals a voice in Allina's decision making. New safety provisions will protect doctors from being forced to provide care to patients who have harassed or threatened them.

But members of the bargaining teams stressed that the finish line remains far from sight.

"They need a contract," said Senate Majority Leader Erin Murphy (D-St. Paul), a registered nurse who attended the rally. "I'm asking those on the other side of the table to stand in common cause with those who are licensed to provide care, in advocacy for Minnesotans who need care. Find a path forward for a contract ... so that providers are able to practice in a way that puts patients first."



Labor Review photo

OPEIU Local 12 members turned out for picketing at HealthPartners in Bloomington.

OPEIU Local 12 members warn HealthPartners they're 'not going back' on health benefits

BLOOMINGTON — Members of Office and Professional Employees (OPEIU) Local 12 held informational picketing November 26 at the 31 HealthPartners offices and clinics across the Twin Cities where they work, hoping to give the health provider a preview of what's coming if workers are forced to strike.

The picketing, held four days before OPEIU members' contract was set to expire, drew solidarity from members of SEIU Healthcare Minnesota and Iowa who also work at HealthPartners.

At a rally outside HealthPartners' corporate offices in Bloomington, Local 12 members blasted the organization's executives for pleading poverty at the bar-

gaining table while their CEO earns \$1,500 per hour — more than many members earn in a pay period.

OPEIU members are sticking to three priorities in bargaining: maintaining their health insurance benefits, raising wages to keep up with inflation and ending abuse and harassment on the job.

The union said HealthPartners has demanded a 400 percent increase to members' health insurance premiums and out-of-pocket costs. At the rally in Bloomington, which union members at other locations were looped into via Zoom, bargaining team member Paula Moyer called the employers' health benefit proposal "punitive and outrageous."

— Saint Paul Union Advocate

Warm Wishes To Our Members
and AFL-CIO Friends For A
Happy Holiday Season.



Minneapolis Area Local

AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION, AFL-CIO
Office: 1234 4TH ST., N.E., Minneapolis, MN 55413



Wishing our Members, Families
and Friends Happy Holidays
from the Officers and Staff
Local Union 292
International Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers

For all your electrical and technology needs,
please support our members by contacting
Local Union 292, IBEW at (612) 379-1292

**PROUDLY SERVING OUR COMMUNITY FOR
OVER ONE HUNDRED TWENTY YEARS**

www.ibew292.org

Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year



Roofers & Waterproofers
Local 96

www.rooferslocal96.com

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



from
Painters
Local 386

**Happy Holidays to all
Union Families!**



Paid for by Minnesota Laborers Employers Cooperation & Education Trust
www.mnlecet.org www.LiunaMinnesota.org

Holiday Greetings To
All Our Brothers & Sisters



www.local417.com

Wish the Troops a Great Holiday Season!

Holiday Greetings

— 2024 —

May the Joys of the Season be Yours



New mural in North Loop depicts 1934 Teamsters strikes and local labor history

MINNEAPOLIS – The most significant event in local labor history – the 1934 Teamsters strikes – now is the subject of a new mural which was installed this fall in the historic Minneapolis warehouse district.

The mural is on the side of a building just steps away from the site of “Bloody Friday,” when Minneapolis police July 24, 1934 opened fire on striking Teamsters and their supporters, shooting 67 and killing two.

The Teamsters went on to win the strike and broke the power of the anti-union Citizens Alliance, making Minneapolis a union town.

The new mural was created by a team of artists and apprentice artists from Juxtaposition Arts, a nonprofit which was contracted by the building’s owner to create a mural for a long exterior wall.

Most of the mural is a colorful abstract design, but “the smaller three panels are dedicated to the 1934 strike and labor rising,” said Drew Peterson, who coordinated the project for Juxtaposition Arts.

“We’re a youth arts organization out of north Minneapolis. We employ youth and train them,” Peterson explained. For this project, “we were particularly excited because of the historical component,” he said.

Local labor historian Peter Rachleff offered his expertise as the students researched historical images and learned about labor history.

Peterson wrote about the project: “Our mural concept recognizes the evolving and ongoing struggle of the Labor Movement and through our research found many instances where the struggle of the 1930s has been replicated in the decades that follow. Our mural concept highlights the conflict and uprising of 1934 while juxtaposing imagery to other labor protests from the last 90 years, including the teachers strikes from the 1960s and 2010s and the national labor strikes of today.”

The panels which comprise the murals largely were created off-site, then installed on the wall.

“The whole process took about a year,” Peterson said, with 12 students involved in the project.

You can find the mural on the alley located on N. 7th Ave. one-half block south of Washington Ave.

The building address is 246 N. 7th Ave.

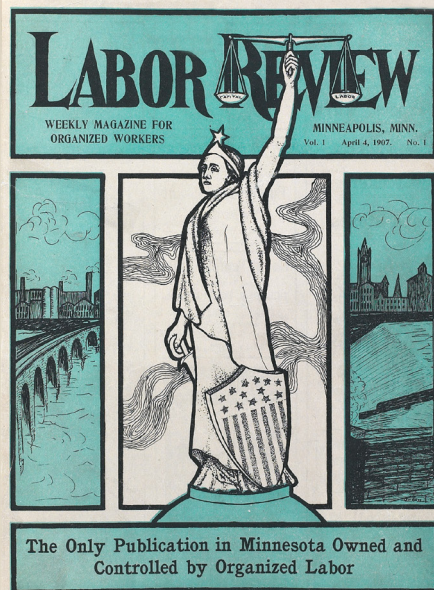
One half-block away, a plaque commemorating “Bloody Friday” may be found on the building at the southwest corner of N. 7th Ave. and N. 3rd St.

Wishing you and your family a Joyous Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year



Labor Review photo

Above: The mural created by Juxtaposition Arts is located on the north side of 246 N. 7th Ave. in the Minneapolis warehouse district. The images were inspired by the 1934 Teamsters strikes and other events and figures in local labor history.



Explore the Minneapolis Labor Review Archive

117 years of labor history at the click of a mouse button!

Web-Based
Searchable
Free Access

www.minneapolisunions.org



Juxtaposition Arts photo

Above: A student from Juxtaposition Arts worked on the mural.

A Pipefitters Celebration



Above: Pipefitters Local 539 member Brian Widi (right) and wife Katie (left) came with their three kids ages four months, two and five to the Local 539 Children's Christmas Party December 7 at the DoubleTree hotel in Bloomington. Brian Widi, Belle Plaine, is an 18-year member of the Pipefitters, with four years as a Local 539 member and 14 years as member of Local 400 in Green Bay.



Above: Santa greeted Local 539 retiree Larry Chadwick (right) who says he joined the union "December 2, 1959" and now has been retired 28 years. "I'm only 88," said Chadwick, South St. Paul. "I think I'm the only great-great-grandpa here," he ventured. He reported one great-great-grandchild, 15 great-grandchildren and 15 grandchildren. "I was here [at the Pipefitters Christmas celebration] 80 years ago," Chadwick added. "My dad was a Pipefitter — Miles A. Chadwick." Larry Chadwick's three sons followed him into the trade and the union: Joe Chadwick (now deceased), Mike Chadwick and David Chadwick. Larry offered another update: after 17 years as a widower, "I got married again a couple years ago — I married the girl of my dreams, Ann Conrad."

Best Wishes for Healthy and Happy Holidays

To all our union brothers and sisters and their families



From your brothers and sisters
with
Heat and Frost Insulators and
Allied Workers, Local 34

www.insulators34.org

Happy Holidays!

Please don't drink and drive. We don't need the business.

AFSCME Local 552

Hennepin County Probation, Parole
and Family Mediator/Evaluators



Latonya Reeves, *President*
Jill Hahn, *Vice President*
Lisa Dubbeldee, *Secretary*
Alistar Nairn, *Treasurer*
Alexis Riehm and Mackenzie Hill,
Co-Chief Stewards

Happy Holidays

from the
Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers
Local #1
MN/ND/SD



www.bac1mn-nd.org

Wishing all our siblings in the labor movement
a very happy holiday season!



From AFSCME Local 34
Hennepin County Social Services and Related



Holiday Greetings!

ELEVATOR CONSTRUCTORS LOCAL 9

Minnesota • North Dakota • Wisconsin

433 Little Canada Rd. East
Little Canada, MN 55117 651-287-0817

www.local9.com

**Season's
greetings
from all
of us at
Education
Minnesota!**



THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL
EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

www.educationminnesota.org



Happy & Healthy Holidays!

IUPAT District Council 82 sends all union members best wishes for the New Year!

Affiliated Locals 61, 106, 386, 681, 880, 1324, 1922, 1962, 2002

Season's Greetings!

**ALLIED PRINTING TRADES COUNCIL
OF THE TWIN CITIES**

Printing, Packaging & Production Workers Union
of North America
(Local 1-B, Local 1-M)

Newspaper Guild / Typographical Union
(CWA Local 37002)

LOCAL 363 MEMBERS

*Happy Holidays and
THANK YOU to our members
for BEING THE POWER
for more than 100 years!*



LiUNA!
BUILDS AMERICA

CITY EMPLOYEES LOCAL 363
Laborers International Union of North America

*Holiday Greetings from the
Minnesota Newspaper &
Communications Guild*
Representing the
Labor Review since 1985



MN Newspaper &
Communications Guild
2233 University Ave. W. #345
Saint Paul, MN 55114
Phone: 651-645-9000
newspaperguild@mnguild.org
www.mnguild.org

**Wishing You a Safe,
Healthy and Happy
New Year!**



MINNESOTA BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

A message from the men and women of the
Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council.
Building Minnesota with quality and pride.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

TO ALL UNION MEMBERS & AREA CONTRACTORS

FROM
CEMENT MASONS,
PLASTERERS &
SHOPHANDS
LOCAL 633

OF MINNESOTA, NORTH
DAKOTA, & NW WISCONSIN



312 CENTRAL AVE, #376, MPLS, MN 55414
612-379-1558 WWW.LOCAL633.ORG

AMERICA'S OLDEST BUILDING TRADES UNION
EST. 1864

**Minneapolis Regional
Labor Federation**

'Like' us on facebook for:
News Updates
Action Alerts
Links
Photos of Union Events



www.facebook.com/minneapolisunions

Local Union News

AFSCME Hennepin County Locals: Workers ratify contract bringing annual 4 percent raises for 3 years

After a months-long contract campaign and a high-turnout rally, five Hennepin County AFSCME locals representing 4,000 workers reached a tentative agreement November 21 on a new three-year contract with Hennepin County.

The contract offered a four percent across-the-board wage increases each year for three years.

“We started off asking for 20 percent because that was the ‘David Hough hike,’” commented Latonya Reeves, president of AFSCME Local 552, referring to a recent pay increase for county administrator David Hough.

“We wanted as high as we could get,” Reeves said. Workers want to serve their community, she said, but they also need to support themselves and their families.

In addition to the annual four percent General Salary Adjustment, Reeves reported, 41 job classifications also will get a wage market adjustment.

The wage market adjustment increases vary, but, in one example, probation officers at the top of the pay scale will get an additional three percent wage market adjustment.

The worker-employer percentages of health insurance premiums will remain the same.

Workers voted online and in-person whether to approve the agreement over

several days in December.

The vote, announced December 5: workers ratified the agreement with 95 percent voting in favor..

As the *Labor Review* went to press December 12, the county board was expected to vote on the agreement.

The contract covers AFSCME’s Local 34 (social services), Local 552 (probation, parole and family mediators), Local 1719 (corrections), Local 2864 (professional) and Local 2938 (attorneys).

Bargaining team members got support from an active contract campaign turning out rank-and-file members for informational pickets, county board meetings and a November 12 rally that drew a historic turnout of 750 AFSCME members (*see page 13*).

“Especially for Local 552, I’m so proud of the engagement we had,” Reeves said. Probation agents turned out 75 strong for the November 12 rally, she said. “We’ve never had that much participation at any rally or action,” she noted.

“I was glad to see how much support the bargaining table had for the work they were doing,” Reeves said.

Bricklayers Local 1: New constitution will be sent out in January for vote by members

Members of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 1 should watch their U.S. Mail in January. Members will be receiving ballots to vote on proposed revisions to the local’s constitution.

The changes include: splitting the current President/Secretary-Treasurer position into two paid positions, eliminating the executive vice president position, establishing an organizing committee, and phasing in a two percent increase in local dues.

Members already should have received a copy of the proposed changes in the mail.

A story in Local 1’s December newsletter highlighted the proposed changes.

The new constitution also may be viewed online at bac1mn-nd.org.

The mail-in ballots will be tabulated by the American Arbitration Association.

Local 1 advises members to be sure the office has their current U.S. Mail address.

Firefighters Local 82: Toys for holiday gifts donated to Minneapolis American Indian Center

A group of about 20 members of Minneapolis Firefighters went on a holiday toy-shopping spree December 2 at the Target store at the Quarry shopping center in northeast Minneapolis. Photos on the local’s Facebook page showed 14 shopping carts filled to overflowing with a wide assortment of toys, including — no surprise — a toy fire engine.

In conjunction with Local 82 Charities, the purchased toys were to be donated for distribution by the Minneapolis American Indian Center in south Minneapolis.

IATSE Local 745: AV crew for Timberwolves and Lynx vote to unionize

The Audio-Visual crew who work the basketball games for the Minnesota Timberwolves and Minnesota Lynx voted to organize a union with IATSE in a vote tally announced November 10 by the National Labor Relations Board. The vote was 24-17, reported IATSE Local 745 business agent Charlie Cushing.

“It’s literally been eight years in the making,” he told the *Labor Review*.

In a 2017 vote, workers voted no to unionizing.

“The irony is we lost by 7 (in 2017) and we won by 7 (in 2024),” Cushing said.

In the meantime, he noted, the workforce experienced a high degree of turnover, “mostly because the wages have been so stagnant.”

The group of 52 workers include camera operators and others who produce the live in-house video shown on the Jumbotron in the Target Center arena.

(The workers who broadcast the Timberwolves and Lynx for television became union in 2009).

A November 21, 2024 story published by workdaymagazine.org reported the years-long effort by the workers to organize in the face of anti-union management and misclassification of the workers as independent contractors.

For 35 years, the employer did not
LOCAL UNION NEWS page 22

Retiree Meetings

Minneapolis Regional Retiree Council:

Monthly meetings coming January 16, February 20

The next regular monthly meetings of the Minneapolis Regional Retiree Council, AFL-CIO will be Thursday, January 16 and Thursday, February 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. in Room 218 at the United Labor Centre, 312 Central Ave. SE, Minneapolis. Lunch will be provided after the meeting adjourns.

The meetings will be in-person only.

Parking is available at the Saint Anthony Public Parking Ramp (at the corner of 2nd St. SE and University Ave. SE), across University from the United Labor Centre building. The ramp recently moved to a new payment method, so contact Graeme Allen for more information about parking reimbursement.

For more information about the Council, contact Graeme Allen, community and political organizer for the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation, at 612-481-2144 or e-mail graeme@minneapolisunions.org.

ATU Local 1005 Retirees:

Meet first Wednesday of the month

The Southside Retirees of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1005 are now meeting for breakfast the first Wednesday of the month at 8:00 a.m. at the Richfield VFW, 6715 Lake Shore Drive South, Richfield.

Carpenters Retirees:

Next meeting January 30

After a two-month break for November and December, Carpenters Retirees will meet Thursday, January 30 at 10:00 a.m. at the North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters union hall, 710 Olive Street, St. Paul. Lunch follows the meeting. The meetings will continue from January through October on the last Thursday of each month.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

If your union retiree group is meeting in-person or online, and you want to share that information, or if you have other important announcements, contact the editor at laborreview@minneapolisunions.org or 612-715-2667.

IBEW Local 292 Retirees:

‘Senior Sparkies’ will meet January 14, February 11

The IBEW Local 292 Retirees — “Senior Sparkies” — will meet Tuesday, January 14 and Tuesday, February 11 at IBEW Local 292’s union hall, 6700 West Broadway Ave. in Brooklyn Park. A buffet lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. and the meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m. For more information, contact the IBEW Local 292 office at 612-379-1292.

Minneapolis Retired Teachers, Chapter 59:

Next meeting will be January 28 via Zoom

The Retired Minneapolis Educators will meet via Zoom for the next three months.

The meetings will be on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. on the following dates: January 28, February 25, and March 25.

In-person-only meetings will resume after March.

The April 22 and May 27 meetings will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon. at the MFT office, 67- 8th Ave. NE, Minneapolis.

For more information, e-mail RTC59info@gmail.com.

Minnesota Nurses Association Retirees:

CARn will meet January 8, February 12

The Council of Active Retired Nurses (CARn) will meet

Wednesday, January 8 and Wednesday, February 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon at the Minnesota Nurses Association, 345 Randolph Ave., St. Paul.

CARn meets the second Wednesday of the month.

All retired members of the Minnesota Nurses Association are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Barb Martin at jimbarbmartin@aol.com.

Pipefitters Local 539 Retirees:

‘Fazed Out Fitters’ meet third Wednesday

Pipefitters Local 539 retirees — the “Fazed Out Fitters” — meet the third Wednesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. at Elsie’s, 729 Marshall St. NE, Minneapolis. New members welcome.

Plumbers Local 15 Retirees:

Meet the third Tuesday of each month

All retired Plumbers Local 15 members are invited to attend retiree meetings, continuing the third Tuesday of every month at 12 noon at Elsie’s Restaurant, Bar & Bowling Center, 729 Marshall St. NE, Minneapolis (corner of Marshall and 8th Ave.). For more information, contact the Local 15 office at 612-333-8601.

Sheet Metal Workers Local 10 Retirees:

‘Rusty Tinnners’ take winter break for January, February

The Sheet Metal Workers Local 10 “Rusty Tinnners” retirees club will take a winter break for January and February.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 11 at the Maplewood union hall, 1681 E. Cope Ave. Details to follow in the February 2024 issue of the *Labor Review*.

All retired Sheet Metal workers and spouses are welcome to our monthly meetings. We meet the second Tuesday of the month, September through December and March through May.

continued from page 21

provide an annual pay raise — only offering wage increases in the face of a union organizing effort.

“They continued to be the bad employer the whole time,” Cushing said.

In 2022, the employer finally started paying the workers as employees instead of as independent contractors.

The vote concluded, the workers now face the challenge of winning a first contract. “It’s going to take the employer being willing to sit down and negotiate a fair deal,” Cushing said. “IATSE Local 745 will always be a fair partner to every employer.”

Cushing observed that the Timberwolves and Lynx both are owned by Glen Taylor, “the richest man in the state of Minnesota,” and that the two teams “absolutely can afford annual wage increases, benefits, and contributions to retirement accounts.”

Minneapolis Federation of Teachers:

Online community survey seeks input from Minneapolis families

The Minneapolis Federation of Teachers is co-sponsoring an online community survey to seek input from Minneapolis families about school issues and concerns as the school district contemplates changes ahead.

The online survey may be found at www.mft59.org/invest-in-mps.

The survey is available in English, Spanish, Somali, and Hmong.

The survey also may be downloaded to complete on paper, with English, Spanish, Somali and Hmong versions available.

The survey will close January 31.

Survey co-sponsors include MFT, Take-Action Minnesota and Minneapolis Families for Public Schools.

Minnesota Nurses Association:

Day on the Hill planned February 25

The Minnesota Nurses Association is planning its annual “Day on the Hill” for February 25, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information or to register, members can visit mnnurses.org.



U of M graduate students' union wins first contract

MINNEAPOLIS — More than one year after voting April 28, 2023 to unionize, graduate students at the University of Minnesota reached a tentative agreement on a first contract November 23, 2024 — but only after they voted overwhelmingly to support a November 15 strike authorization vote. Then, voting December 4-6, the students — members of the UMN Graduate Labor Union-UE Local 1105 — voted to ratify the agreement with 87 percent voting yes. The agreement will provide each graduate student with immediate raises ranging from 2 percent to 22 percent, with the lowest-paid getting the biggest raises. *Photo above:* Local 1105 members and supporters marched September 13 through the University of Minnesota campus calling on the U of M to settle a first contract.

NALC Branch 9:

Reform slate wins election

In recent elections, a reform slate won all contested races for the leadership positions for Branch 9 of the National Association of Letter Carriers. All other members of the reform slate ran unopposed for their positions.

Running for president, Joe Rian defeated incumbent Scott Bultena.

(Bultena had served as president since May 2023, when he was elevated from executive vice president to president following the retirement of then-president JoAnn Gilbaugh).

Joe Rian, Minneapolis, is a 30-year Branch 9 member and a letter carrier from the Richfield station. He previously served the local as a union steward for 25 years and in other roles.

Running for executive vice president, Chris Pennock defeated Will Mathes.

Also winning contested races: Andrew

Hagan, recording secretary; Joe Tanner, director of retirees; Susan Becker, Tim Bash, and Cheryl Dombrock trustees.

Five members of the reform slate ran unopposed: Barb Watzak, treasurer; Stacey Ellingson, financial secretary; Ken Jambois, NALC Health Benefits Representative; Tyler Vasseur, editor; Jorge Quintero-Troets, sergeant at arms.

Rian told the *Labor Review* that he and Pennock both ran three years ago but lost. “We ran this time with a slate and we did win,” he said. “We organized a good election. We had a good group of people and we all worked together to win.”

Rian said increasing transparency in Branch 9 will be a major goal of the new leadership. In addition, he said, “we wanted more of a fighting group. We want to stand-up for workers’ rights and let management know we’re not going to be pushed around.”

The new leadership team elected as a

slate includes a mix of longtime members and newer members who are bringing “new energy and new direction,” Rian said. “It’s exciting!”

SEIU Healthcare:

Woodlake in New Hope nursing home workers planned 5-day ULP strike

As the *Labor Review* went to press December 13, nursing home workers at Woodlake in New Hope planned to begin a five-day Unfair Labor Practice strike that day if no contract agreement was reached before that date.

The 185 workers are members of SEIU Healthcare Minnesota & Iowa.

Mofoba Kanneh, a nurses aide who has worked at the facility for 23 years and is a member of the bargaining team, shared why workers are ready to take this step:

“We are ready to strike because since we have changed ownership they are refusing to honor things we had in our contract like the \$5 wage increase that they are trying to not give new hires. We also are facing frustrations with our 401(k) and other benefit issues they are refusing to work with us on. They continue to add residents but we already don’t have enough staff, and their actions are causing this issue to get worse by not respecting our work. Enough is enough. We need them to treat us better so we can make sure we have enough staff to do this important work.”

UNITE HERE Local 17:

Marquette Hotel workers vote to authorize ULP strike

December 4-5, members of UNITE HERE Local 17 at the Marquette Hotel in downtown Minneapolis voted 91 percent in favor to authorize an unfair labor practice strike.

The ULP charge says the hotel has engaged in regressive bargaining, first agreeing to follow any wage increases won by Lofton hotel workers — and then backing off of that position, reported Geof Paquette, Local 17’s internal organizing director.

Earlier in November, the workers “marched on the boss” to deliver a petition demanding that they receive the same historic wages recently won by Lofton Hotel workers (*Labor Review*, November 16, 2024).

And, beginning at 7:00 a.m. November 21, workers staged a noisy pre-shift picket outside the Marquette, banging on drums, pots and pans, raising a ruckus.

The workers’ contract expired May 1, 2024.

The bargaining unit covers about 60 workers including housekeepers, kitchen staff, restaurant servers and banquet staff.

Sources: Labor Review reporting and local unions.

To submit a story idea or news item, contact the editor at 612-379-4725 or e-mail laborreview@minneapolisunions.org. Next deadline: February 12.

Pipefitters Local 539

PIPERS

Dues Reminder

Please remember to pay your January-June 2025 Dues. You are able to pay online for your dues on the Pipefitters website. You do not need to log in to do so.

Condolences

Condolences to the family of James Roney.

If you would like something added to the Pipers section of the *Labor Review*, call the office at (612) 379-4711.

Paid for by Pipefitters Local 539 • www.pipefitters539.com

WORKING PARTNERSHIPS

Serving Working Families in the Minneapolis & West Metro Region

- Emergency Food Program • Emergency Financial Assistance •
- Information and Referral •
- Education and Training • Civic Engagement •



United Labor Centre
312 Central Ave. Suite 524, Minneapolis
612-379-8130

www.workingpartnerships.org



**Earn more
while
you play!**

Earn **4.00% APY*** with
St. Paul Federal Credit Union's
60-month share certificate!

YOU'VE GOT BETTER THINGS TO DO
than worry about whether your
savings is earning all it could be.

Move as little as \$1,000 to
St. Paul Federal Credit Union
and **EARN A WHOPPING 4.00% APY
FOR 60 MONTHS.** Your deposits
are fully insured up to \$250,000
by the NCUA.



Visit us today at
www.stpaulfcu.org

**St. Paul Federal
CREDIT UNION**

www.stpaulfcu.org 800-782-5767 1330 Conway Street, Suite 200, St. Paul, MN 55106

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) Assumes principal and interest remain on deposit for the term of the certificate. APY is effective as of November 26, 2024. Minimum deposit for this certificate special is \$1,000.00. Penalties will be imposed for early withdrawals. An early withdrawal may deduct from the principal balance. Offer good on new personal share certificates only. Not valid on IRA certificates. Not valid with any other promotional offers. Certificate will automatically renew at maturity at current market rates unless you inform us of your intent to move the funds at the time of maturity. APY is a limited time offer, and subject to change at any time. Limit one offer per member and per household. The penalty we may impose will equal 365 days dividends on the amount withdrawn. All dividends accrued, but not yet credited, will be paid to the share certificate at the time of withdrawal. All rates are deemed reliable, but not guaranteed. Please call the credit union with any questions you may have regarding rates. Rates can change at any time. All rates are based on term.



Address Change? Subscription Instructions?

Please let us know if your address will be changing, if your household is receiving more than one Labor Review, or if you would like to cancel your subscription.

Cut out or photo-copy your mailing label from the front page of the newspaper and mail it to us with your instructions:

Attn: mailing list
Minneapolis Labor Review
312 Central Ave. SE, Suite 542
Minneapolis, MN 55414

No phone calls, please, to report address changes, stop duplicates, or cancel your subscription. Thanks!

Are you on facebook? 'Like' the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation...



- News Updates • Action Alerts •
- Links • Photos of Union Events •

www.facebook.com/minneapolisunions

Happy Holidays!

*from the Union that
Delivers for You.*

**Minneapolis Branch 9
National Association
of Letter Carriers**

IBEW Local Union 292 Minneapolis Electrical Workers

Holidays

Local 292 wishes friends and family a safe and festive holiday season!
The office will be closed on the following days: The Christmas holiday will be observed Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25; New Year's Eve, Tuesday, December 31 and New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1.

Brotherhood

The Local 292 Brotherhood Committee assists members

in need or distress, either with a gift card from our Local 292 food shelf or teams of Brothers and Sisters helping around the house.

If you need assistance or know of another member in need, please call our Brotherhood line at 612-617-4247 or send an e-mail to brotherhood@ibew292.org.

Condolences

Brother James O'Keefe, Jr., Brother William J. Hansen, Brother Brian W. Zemke.

See you at the General Membership Meeting, 5:30 p.m. on the Second Tuesday

Paid for by IBEW Local 292 • www.ibew292.org

Minneapolis Labor Review

2025 Publication Schedule

The Labor Review will publish nine issues in 2025. Note: NO issue published in January, March and June. The publication date normally will be the last Saturday or second to last Saturday of each month.

<p>January No issue published</p>	<p>May 31 Deadline: May 14 118th Anniversary Issue</p>	<p>September 20 Deadline: September 3</p>
<p>February 28 Deadline: February 12</p>	<p>June No issue published</p>	<p>October 18 Deadline: October 1 General Election Issue</p>
<p>March No issue published</p>	<p>July 26 Deadline: July 9 Primary Election Issue</p>	<p>November 15 Deadline: October 29 Holiday Shopping Guide</p>
<p>April 19 Deadline: April 2</p>	<p>August 23 Deadline: August 6 Labor Day Issue</p>	<p>December 20 Deadline: December 3 Holiday Issue</p>

Next Special Issue:
May 31, 2025 — 118th Anniversary Issue!
Discounted ad rates available

**For more information, to suggest a story idea,
or to advertise, contact the editor at 612-379-4725
or laborreview@minneapolisunions.org**

A CUSTODIAN BANK FOR UNIONS!

Accountability | Security | Personalized Service

- Founded by unions
- For unions and union members
- Still owned and controlled by the same unions!



312 Central Avenue SE • Minneapolis 612-379-3222
www.ubtmn.com • Member FDIC
A Tradition Since 1976



WISHING YOU A SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON AND A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR!

CARPENTERS • PILE DRIVERS • INDUSTRIAL MILLWRIGHTS • INTERIOR SYSTEMS

WWW.NORTHCOUNTRYCARPENTER.ORG



Wishing you a healthy and happy holiday season from the Minnesota Nurses Association.



mnnurses.org

Protecting the Rights of Injured Workers for 70 Years

Few of Minnesota's major personal injury law firms have a dedicated workers' comp department, and fewer still have one as accomplished as the team at SiebenCarey. Combined with our top-ranked personal injury attorneys, SiebenCarey has your back after any injury, including:

- Work and construction site injuries
- Car, truck, and motorcycle crashes
- Boat and ATV accidents
- Wrongful death

— Personal Injury Law —
SiebenCarey
Know your rights™



KNOWYOURRIGHTS.COM • 612-333-4500